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## Turtle training

Grace Wiley, education lead with the Turtle Guardians, holds up a Snapping turtle during the first Adult Level 1 Turtle Guardian Training of the year held at the HHOA Fish Hatchery on Saturday, May 13. Eleven participants spent a few hours of the day learning how to identify turtles, about turtle biology, how to help turtles, and how to properly handle them. See more photos on page 14. /TIM YANO Special to the Echo

# Dysart clears the way for Curry Road cell tower

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Rogers Communications has the go-ahead to put a cell tower in Dysart et al.

Township council agreed May 9 when it met to allow the construction of a cell tower to improve wireless communica-

tions.

Only Councillor Tammy Donaldson voted against the proposed tower.

Rogers Communications plans to erect a guyed tower about 90 feet high on Curry Road and west of Haliburton Lake. It's part of the Cell Gap Project, an effort to improve cellular coverage through eastern Ontario.

The Eastern Ontario Regional Network

Cell Gap Project is undertaken by way of a public-private partnership.

A 30-metre vegetation buffer will be implemented around the proposed tower, and lighting shall be the minimum required to meet safety standards. The tower access road is to be designed and screened with vegetation to minimize the visual impact of the tower by immediate neighbours.

Jeff Iles, the township's planning director, said Rogers has investigated other sites and considered the possibility of piggybacking existing area towers. But there's no other tower suitable for their network.

The nearest tower is owned by Bell about 10 kilometres away. And Rogers

see CELL page 2



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Halliburton Lake residents will be receiving a new cell tower on Curry Road as part of Rogers Communications Cell Gap Project. /Photo submitted

# Cell tower is 5G-capable, says official

from page 1

already has some use of that structure.

Coun. Nancy Wood-Roberts asked if the municipality would be able to use the proposed tower for the township's emergency services and roads department communications.

Christian Lee, a site acquisition specialist working in the area on behalf of Rogers Communications, said the towers are available for use by other carriers and municipalities.

"There's a way for the municipality to reach out to Rogers network department to discuss co-location," Lee said.

There is a small fee that's "significantly less than another carrier would pay," he said.

Lee said construction would likely take place about a year and a half from now, and it's likely the tower would be put up with the gear to accommodate both 4G and 5G technology.

Towers are planned and spaced to be optimal for 4G service.

"Why are you calling them 5G towers when it's really 4G that's being installed?" said Donaldson.

"As far as I'm aware, we're not calling them 5G towers," Lee said. "We're answering the question when people ask will there be 5G service on the towers. The answer is yes, but we're not calling them 5G towers."

The structures and equipment comply with Health Canada standards, but Coun. Pat Casey asked about the potential for health risks posed by the wireless communications towers.

"There's some concern of health issues with towers," he said.

Lee said he didn't have the data at his fingertips.

"But what I can say is ... the RF (radiofrequency) emissions in this particular area as a result of this site would be extremely, extremely, extremely small compared to just about anywhere else in the province based on the fact that this is the lone tower in the immediate area."

The proposed tower's antenna system will be 90 metres in the sky.

# Dysart considers fee increases for cemetery services

JAMES MATTHEWS

*Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

1. Cemetery service fees may increase in Dysart as of July

During a meeting May 9, township council asked staff to prepare a bylaw that will allow increases in internment fees that will cover the maintenance and management of Evergreen Cemetery.

Staff will present the bylaw to council at a future meeting.

The Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) will increase licensing fees in July. The fee change is to offset inflation and will cover the BAO's growth obligations related to its strategic plan objectives and recommendations of the Auditor General.

In addition to the licensing increase, costs have been rising for wages and benefits and contract services for cemetery maintenance.

Barbara Swannell, the township's treasurer, said grounds maintenance is the largest expense for the cemetery. It represents about 70 per cent of Evergreen Cemetery's operating budget.

An adult casket interment currently costs \$450. With the proposed increase, that service will cost \$550. Similarly, a casket interment for an infant or child costs \$300 now. That fee could rise to \$400 in July.

The current cost for the interment of cremated ashes is \$250. That fee may increase to \$275.

As part of the BAO increases, Dysart will pay \$30 as opposed to \$13.63 per casket and cremation interment. Considering 2022 activity, this equates to a \$400 increase for cemetery licensing alone.

In addition to this licensing increase, cost recovery increases are necessary as the Dysart has been experiencing fee increases for contract services for cemetery maintenance.

"If we look at the history of 2022, we had 27 events of various types of interments," said Swannell. "With the increase starting July 1 up to \$30, we're going to see 110 per cent increase on the fee that we have to pay annually for the interment activity."

She said the municipality covers the general operating costs of the cemetery.

"It is not breaking even," she said.

Mayor Murray Fearrey asked if the fee increases would cover the licensing fee increase.

"It will help to cover the increase and also cover some of the additional costs for the grounds maintenance in particular," Swannell said. "We've had some increases year over year and never really considered that in the fee, so we're taking the opportunity to consider that in the fee increase."

# CHA addresses key threats to lake health in the county

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Editor

The Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners Associations (CHA) hosted their Lake Steward's meeting on Saturday, May 6 at Sir Sam's Ski/Ride to discuss the importance of monitoring lake health and addressed key factors affecting lake health presently.

The meeting featured three speakers focusing on key environmental issues affecting Haliburton County lakes such as invasive species, algae blooms, calcium levels, and climate change.

Each speaker outlined ways lake associations could conduct their own research to monitor these factors.

97 people were registered for the event.

"We've been monitoring the health of our lakes for 40+ years," CHA chair Paul MacInnes said. "That's a lot of change in those 40+ years. We hired the best limnologists, lake health specialists in Ontario, certainly in Canada, to do this project for us."

Aquatic scientist Joel Harrison began with a presentation about monitoring lake health in the 2020s and beyond.

He said first an association must agree on what they think lake health means for their particular lake.

"Why monitor lake health at all?" Harrison said. "It's important," just like monitoring one's own health or keeping track of investments.

Understanding lakes and their health means effective management plans can then be put in place.

There are a variety of aspects of lake health that can be monitored, from simple to complex.

Emerging threats to lakes, Harrison said, "are climate change, algal blooms, salt levels, declining calcium, emerging stressors, some new chemicals like pharmaceuticals, and even things like light and noise from human development affect the living things in lakes."

Harrison focused on algal blooms, or phytoplankton, and the common misconception of algae being unhealthy for lakes.

"Phytoplankton aren't necessarily evil at all. They're a healthy part of the ecosystem, so they support the higher levels in the food web. They turn the energy of the sun into carbon," but too much of anything can be considered unhealthy.

He explained that phytoplankton, or plant plankton, initially helped life on Earth form.

"If you think at a really big scale, ultimately, we wouldn't be here at all on Earth without phytoplankton," Harrison said. "This might seem like an odd thing to say, but a few billion years ago, it was phytoplankton that first oxygenated the atmosphere."

Problems only arise when there are too many algal blooms and when undesired types of phytoplankton become prominent.

Lakes that have never seen algae in recent years now have blooms.

"Increasingly, in the 2020s, we think this is related to climate change, we're seeing more subtle blooms ... that's obviously a concern. There's an increase over time. A number of lakes have reported blooms for the first time, so that's going up, and that's suggesting that previously pristine lakes are starting to experience blooms," Harrison said.

Less ice cover means warmer lake temperatures.

"It affects the mixing of the water column, and that affects the biology of the lake, so more bacterial blooms," Harrison said.



Aquatic scientist Joel Harrison discusses factors affecting lake health and what lake associations can do to conduct their own research during the CHA Lake Stewards meeting held at Sir Sam's Ski/Bike on Saturday, May 6. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Dr. Norman Yan presents during the CHA Lake Stewards event.

son said.

Dr. Norman Yan, CHA lake health advisor, added in his presentation that zooplankton, or animal plankton, also have a direct relation to the amount of algae in a lake.

He calls them the "lawnmowers" of lakes.

"On a typical July week, the entire volume of any given lake has been filtered through the stomachs by these little tiny animals that you can't actually see," Yan said. "If algae grow faster or if they die slower, you may end up with an algal bloom."

Phosphorus levels must also be kept in check, as they are a nutrient for phytoplankton.

"While we all understand, and certainly in Haliburton, what happens in the watershed matters to what happens in lakes," Yan said. "If you get rid of the forest, if you get rid of the filter for phosphorus, you're going to end up with more phosphorus in your lake. So cutting down the forest, adding a source of

phosphorus, not looking after your septic tanks, getting rid of the shoreline filters that absorb the phosphorus, that all matters, but also what happens at the bottom of lakes matters."

Other factors influencing algal bloom populations are invasive species, road salt, and calcium levels.

Yan said there was a 40 per cent decrease in animal plankton populations after the Spiny water flea began invading Haliburton and Muskoka lakes.

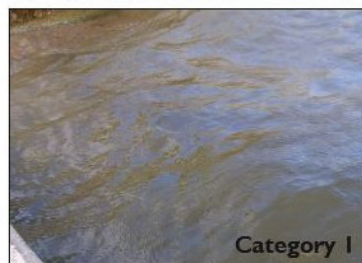
"They eat the little lawnmowers," Yan said.

Harrison also noted salt levels in freshwater lakes are increasing as more salt is added to roads in winter.

"It's essentially a linear trend over time with sodium chloride concentrations just steadily going up, and that's continuing to happen," he said. "The cause is, of course, road salt."

For more information about the CHA, visit [www.cohpoa.org](http://www.cohpoa.org).

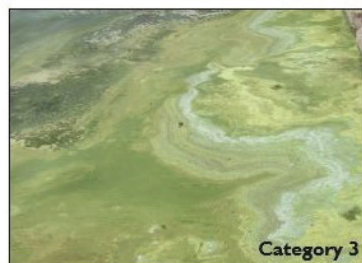
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# Cyclists ask Highlands East for safer roads

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Highlands East isn't quite the cyclist's dream.

But it could be. Some local riders told the township council when it met May 9 that the municipality could be great for biking.

Heather Sargent has lived in the highlands fulltime for four years. Linda Robitaille has lived fulltime in the area for the last six years. They're part of the group called Riding Everywhere and Celebrating the Highlands (REACH).

Their cycling group includes about 60 men and women and its increasing.

But here's the thing: Many of those bike enthusiasts ride elsewhere for safer cycling options. They leave the municipality.

"Currently, the group chooses most often to leave the municipality as we've found some of the neighbouring communities to have safer roadways and trail systems," Sargent said.

"And with us goes the money that we're spending on lunches and shopping and other things."

Sargent provided examples of some of the changes in activities pursued by retirees who have moved into the county.

The predominant focus is on cycling in Highlands East and outside the municipality with a view to how they'd like to see the sport grow.

"We feel very lucky to be here in the Highlands and to have found that there is such an active retiree group," Sargent said.



Highlands East roads are narrow with blind corners. They lack safe shoulders in many places. And the multi-use trails aren't very suitable to cycling. Trail surfaces vary from heavy sand to stone and are deeply rutted or flooded in places.

"It's 2023 and distracted driving in Ontario is up 36 per cent," Sargent said. "This is a very alarming statistic to cyclists."

She said it's common at REACH meet-

ing for somebody to have a new story of close calls of accidents and near-misses with vehicles on the road or motorists shouting expletives as they drive by.

As much as 45 per cent of municipal tax dollars go to roads, she said. And she asked that the township adopt a standard for road shoulders and clearly defined cycling lanes.

"If we could accomplish this, we could improve safety for cyclists," she said. "We

A cycling group in the Highlands, REACH, spoke with Highlands East council and said many cyclists currently leave Highlands East to bike in safer areas. /FILE photo

could help make Highlands East a cycling destination for fulltime and seasonal residents. We could attract and retain people in the community both seasonally and fulltime."

Simply: Build the infrastructure and the people will come, she said.

"We'd like to see people start cycling earlier and normalize this feeling of safety on our roads," Sargent said.

She said REACH would like to collaborate with municipal staff to create a safe cycling environment that could be linked with neighbouring communities.

Mayor Dave Burton said Highlands East is in the process of nailing down a trails master plan, and some of the cycling group's ideas could possibly be incorporated into that plan.

He suggested REACH make a presentation to the upper tier Haliburton County council.

Should REACH and the county determine what can be done, Deputy Mayor Cecil Ryall said there could be a place for Highlands East to join the effort.

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# Rotary Bike Share open for the season

Haliburton Rotary is thrilled to announce that their free Haliburton Bike Share is now open for the 2023 season.

The Bike Share is located next to the new Welcome Centre in Head Lake Park. Renting one of the six bikes is free and easy. Simply download the app onto your smart phone and provide a credit card number which is held as a security deposit only. Riders are encouraged to use one of the helmets stored in the dock box next to the bikes.

The bikes are available for up to a three hour rental during daylight hours for use on the Rail Trail and in Haliburton Village. You must be at least 18 years old to rent a bike.

*Submitted by the  
Rotary Club of Haliburton*



## HHHS Brings Together Emergency Services at Haliburton Site

As of June 1, 2023, emergency services will no longer be available at the HHHS Minden site.

Minden and the surrounding community will be able to access emergency services at the Haliburton site.

Visit [www.hhhs.ca](http://www.hhhs.ca) for more information.



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## A basic human need

**I**N PSYCHOLOGIST Abraham Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, safety is the second-most crucial need for human survival.

It comes immediately after the need to breathe, sleep, drink water, eat food, and be protected from the elements by shelter.

It comes *before* the need for love from family and friends.

It's something that every human should be entitled to.

Feeling a sense of security while going through the motions of life shouldn't be a privilege.

Safety is not a luxury, it's essential to survive. It's needed if any individual hopes to live a healthy life.

In a country full of resources and opportunities, why does half (or, probably more), of its population fear being outside or in a public place alone?

Over the past few weeks, two women were approached and followed in both Minden and Haliburton.

One woman was followed in her car from Haliburton to Minden, and one was followed on foot in Haliburton.

These incidents just knocked out the entire secure foundation of the Hierarchy of Needs.

When the safety of these two women was potentially jeopardized, every female's sense of security was taken away in the county, too.

The pyramid of human needs has a gaping hole, right at the base.

Both women were physically unharmed, but it's been a reality check: living in a small town doesn't equate immunity.

We may live far from the nearest metropolis, but we don't live in a bubble.

The same terrifying issues we see on national news networks are issues here too. On a smaller scale, yes, but they're here.

Now, there's no way to know what the intentions of the male suspects were when confronting these women.

But now seems like an important time to talk about human trafficking.

Statistics Canada says, "Trafficking in persons—often referred to as human trafficking—is a complex crime that is often difficult to detect. It involves the recruiting, transporting, transferring, receiving, holding, concealing or harbouring of a person—or the exercise of control, direction or influence over the movements of a person—in order to exploit or facilitate the exploitation of that person."

Women and girls account for "nearly all" detected victims of this crime.

The majority of these females are 24 and under.

It's important to gain knowledge on this topic, because human trafficking is difficult for law enforcement to trace. Numbers on individuals being trafficked are likely much higher than what's recorded.

Trillium Lakelands District School Board is hosting an in-person Human Trafficking Educational Engagement Session on Thursday, May 18, which is a good start.

Your child's school can be contacted for more information.

Trafficking is certainly the worst-case scenario to come from situations like this, but any type of harassment threatens an individual's sense of safety and well-being.

Verbal threats, catcalling, and even approaching an individual while they're alone can be a trigger to anyone's sense of safety.

Nearly every female I know feels uncomfortable doing simple, everyday tasks such as grocery shopping or walking alone. And this shouldn't be the case.

For information on gender-based violence, visit women-gender-equality.canada.ca/en/gender-based-violence.html.

As a society and even as a community, we can do better.



vivian collings

## Editorial



Spring blooms

by Vivian Collings

## Open windows

**E**VERYTHING CHANGED when the sun came out. Monika saw a young woman with bare legs and arms wandering around the grocery store in town. Then there was the man in the parking lot sporting cut-offs and flip flops. But the calendar said it was early spring not July. Monika, wearing her spring jacket, was amazed. Were they not cold, she asked herself as she pushed her cart past the produce section.

People longed for summer. Monika could see it on the tired faces every time a cold rain pummelled windshields and unprotected heads. She saw it on the grumpy expressions waiting under awnings for the downpour to pass. She saw it on the nervous glances directed at the rising water levels. And she saw it in herself when she snapped at her neighbour Jim.

It happened when he made a comment about the mess in her backyard that the retreating snow had exposed. Monika knew he had been trying for humour, but for her it had felt like a put-down. Sensitive to criticism at any time, she was in a particularly touchy mood after almost two weeks of grey skies and soggy surroundings. Of course Jim being Jim, he then offered to help her clean up. Garden stakes that never got put away. Bits of firewood left when the woodpile toppled over. Twice. The lost rake. The Christmas tree that didn't get past the patio. And more.

But when the sun came out, working outside was enjoyable. Robins hopped, birds chirped from the trees and neighbours waved. Everyone's mood lifted. The mosquitoes and blackflies had yet to arrive, and so all Monika had to deal with was sunscreen and rubber boots. Almost overnight buds had appeared on trees and shoots broke through sodden leaves. Shaggy deer, rapidly losing their winter coats, nosed their way through the new green growth, and Monika knew soon there would be fawns at their sides.

Now that winter really was over, it was time to draw up her spring to-do list. With or without Jim's assis-

tance, she was determined to tackle the projects that never got done last fall. Repairs to the deck, a fresh coat of paint on the screen door and of course, preparing the gardens for planting. When the sun shone, the world seemed to sparkle with optimism. You see, it seemed to say, things do get better eventually. Wars might rage, but the seasons continue, and people needed to have something to look forward to, like leeks in the bush, frogs in the pond and lilacs by the shed.

After lunch Monika walked over to Jim's to see when he might be available to help her pile some of the new firewood that was delivered yesterday. She found him sitting in his small living room, smiling as she entered. This was not like Jim. He rarely sat still, and she wondered if, despite his smile, he was feeling under the weather. Then she noticed something. All four windows in Jim's living room were wide open. Feeling more air flow, she glanced around the corner into the kitchen and sure enough, the patio door and window over the sink were also open. At this point, Jim noted she could go upstairs and find the same thing. He had opened every window and screened door in his house.

Time to purge the stale old winter air, he explained. Let that warm spring-time breeze push out the woodstove's smoky smell, four months of cooking and two dogs' winter napping. Jim said he was going to leave everything open all day, and he might even repeat the action tomorrow if the weather allowed it. Monika had never thought of this herself. Such a simple idea.

Jim said he had read somewhere that the Nordic countries tended to do this a lot. They also regularly hung bedding outdoors to air. Jim's house did smell better than hers right now, Monika noted to herself. Winter suddenly seemed more like a memory than a lingering presence.

Jim agreed to help with the firewood. He said he'd had enough sitting, open windows not withstanding.

### Down



sharon lynch

## Our road

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# points of view

## Home on the range

ON SUNDAY, I left my home a boy and returned a range officer.

Yes, I took the range officer safety course, with several others, at Haliburton Forest so that I would be qualified to help on their sporting clays shooting experience, which is slated to begin sometime this summer. This is something I've wanted to do for quite a while, since it further enhances my knowledge of range operation and firearms safety.

I won't lie though. I've also dreamed of being a range officer for a whole bunch of other reasons. Not the least of which is the respect I hoped it would elicit from Jenn and other civilians.

But apparently, it's not like that.

For instance, when I went to the grocery store, not one person saluted.

Part of the problem, I suspect, was that I was not in uniform. The other part of the problem is that, as yet there is no uniform.



steve  
galea

### Loon Tales

Sure, at the Forest, there has been some talk of range officer vests or hats, or maybe even an arm band.

The first two are viable options but I would stay away from the arm bands as they have historically not been a good look.

If I had my druthers, I would create a uniform that is timeless and exudes the authority and dignity of the position, yet is also fashion-forward and open to being accessorized.

I'm thinking of a tailored suit in olive green or perhaps white with gold, tassel-adorned epaulettes

and crisply creased, riding pants, as well as highly polished black patent leather riding boots and a belt. It should be paired with a peak-brimmed officers cap, with enough gold braiding to befit the position.

As for accessories, I'd keep them to a minimum, so they are not ostentatious. I'd start with a simple yellow sash, which should leave enough space on the left-hand side for the various medals I'm assuming a seasoned range officer is awarded.

Add to that a simple sword sheath bearing a cavalry sabre or, in lieu of that, a leather riding crop. I'd finish off the uniform with a pair of white gloves and mirrored aviator sunglasses. Of course, the dress uniform would be a lot more refined.

OK, now that I have written down my idea, I realize this is a bit much.

So, forget I ever mentioned the sunglasses.

I think this sort of uniform would probably work quite well because it would, in its own subtle way, indicate that the wearer was, in fact, a bona fide range officer, with all the authority that entails.

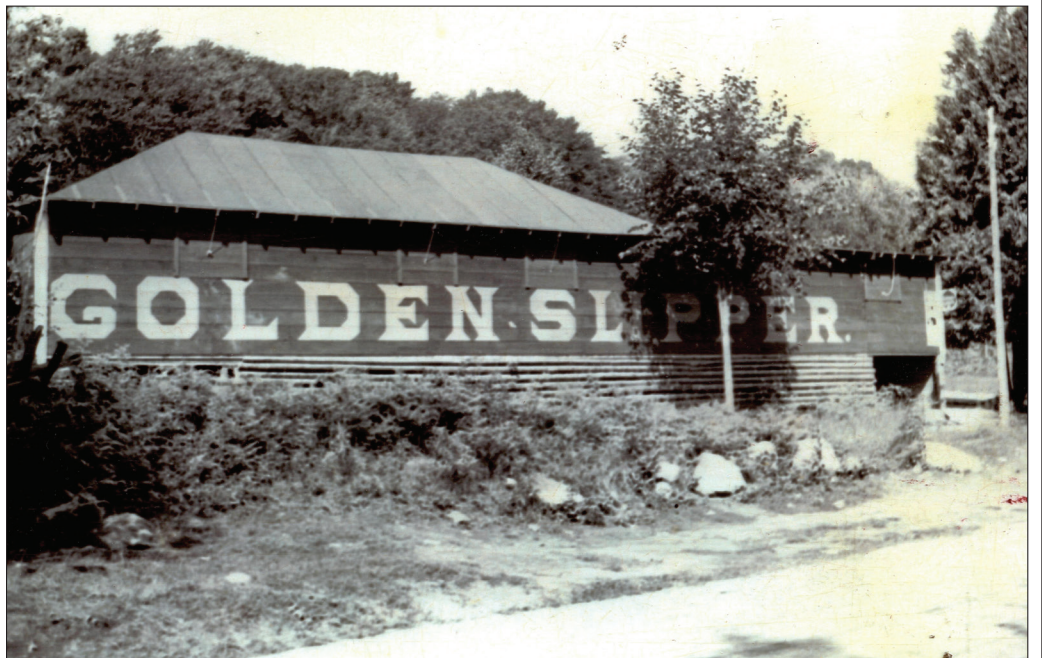
This is important because, on Sunday, we learned that the range officer needs to stand out so that the shooters understand that he or she is in charge of the shooting line and responsible for ensuring a safe environment for everyone.

Well also learned that while on the range, his or her authority is unquestionable. Obviously, a uniform like this would help promote that message.

After all, people in south and central America listen closely to and obey authority figures dressed like this all the time. There must be a good reason for it.

Having said this, I suspect we will probably be wearing more casual attire that still manages to make our position and job quite clear, which is fine, I suppose.

Needless to say, that shouldn't stop you from saluting.



## pic of the past

The Golden Slipper dance hall was built on the North shore of Lake Kashagawigamog by Roy LeBoutillier in 1934. His intention was to provide a dancing venue for the local people and the crowds of summertime visitors who flocked to the numerous lodges and resorts which then dotted the shores of the lake. It was named after a popular musical tune of the day *Oh those Golden Slippers*. Al Perrin, an actor and musician recently arrived from Lindsay, soon joined LeBoutillier to provide music for the Slipper's dances. They were frequent events, with Saturday night being the busiest and most popular. The hall would then be overflowing with dancers, especially in the summer. The Slipper motto was always "Where friends meet friends and make friends". Many couples met at the Slipper, later marrying. Various types of dancing were offered, but square dances were the most popular. Many hundreds of feet traipsed across the highly polished floor of the hall. Perrin took over the Slipper in 1944 and the hall continued to flourish under his orchestra and other musicians who starred upon the Slipper stage over the years. Harold Brodhagen of Haliburton was a frequent performer, with his violin. His passenger boat, the Queen Mary, brought patrons from Haliburton Village and from the docks of the various Lake Kashagawigamog lodges. The parking lot was always full, and cars often parked along the shoulder of the road for a good half mile each way. Perrin strived to maintain a balance between old and new classes of music, catering to the whims of his clientele. In the mid-1960s, rock and roll music was introduced to the Slipper. Nevertheless, peoples' musical and leisure tastes were changing and dance hall popularity was on the decline. Perrin sold the Slipper in 1974 to Wren Blair of Haliburton Hockey Haven. Plans for the hall to be used as a youth recreation centre did not materialize as planned, however, and the famous landmark was torn down in 1977. The Golden Slipper (affectionately known as the "Muddy Boot") continues to live on in the memories of locals and cottagers alike; its former location on present day Wigamog Road is still referred to as "the Slipper Bend". /Submitted by the Haliburton Highlands Museum

## letters to the editor

# An impossible situation for the community

To The Editor,

HHHS what have you done? Are you aware of the impossible situation you have put our county's health care in? You are closing our Minden Hospital on June 1. I understand we will then lose all our wonderful, dedicated, highly skilled, ER doctors. Possibly we will lose nurses also. Over our busiest season you are expecting Haliburton Hospital to cope with double the workload and way fewer doctors not to mention less beds, space and parking.

If your aim is to close both hospitals, you are bound to succeed.

Right now we are posting signs that say Minden Matters. We will need new signs come June that say Help Haliburton.

This season, please visit the one ER our county will be trying to keep open and see for yourself the chaos you have created.

Jan Heaven  
Minden

More letters to the Editor on page 9

Letters to the Editor note: Submissions are subject to editing for newspaper style and punctuation.

# Why Your Opinion Matters

## TOURISM MATTERS



### The Importance of Resident Input in Developing the Haliburton Highlands as a Sustainable Tourism Destination

You may have seen the Resident Sentiment Survey (RSS) that was shared online in December. In this fifth installment of six, and on the heels of Tourism Week in Canada, we are going to take a closer look at some of the key data that was revealed, which will be published in full here next month.

National Tourism Week, which ran from April 24th to 30th, is an annual invitation for all tourism partners to come together to champion and promote Canada's destinations, tourism businesses and employees – from coast to coast to coast, including here in our very own County. The theme this year was CANADA: Powered by Tourism and celebrated the current rebuilding of the visitor economy after a devastating two years for the industry, while also recognizing that there's a long way to go before tourism returns to being the \$105-billion economic powerhouse it was pre-pandemic.

While tourism in the County of Haliburton represents just a small percentage of that much larger national number, locally it is a substantial and very important part of our overall prosperity, and it is the reason we created the Destination Management Plan (DMP) and embarked upon the community-based tourism approach to begin with. As we work to recover and continue to build our tourism product in a way that is not only successful and sustainable, but that also provides real, tangible benefits the entire community, your input via the RSS is invaluable.

As mentioned, next month we will share with you a one-page infographic that will show the key learnings from that first annual RSS – learnings that we have spoken to over the past few months here. For example, we learned that many of you (4.6/10) were not familiar with the role of the County's Tourism Department, especially now as we turn our focus to community-based tourism and what that means. We learned priorities for areas of growth include growing employment opportunities for young people to increase youth retention; developing tourism activities that align with the needs of residents, including affordability, and the protection and restoration of the natural environment; and building awareness of current tourism initiatives related to climate change, truth & reconciliation, and diversity, equity & inclusion.

All the responses you provided in the RSS will not only help to guide us but, and perhaps most importantly, will act as a benchmark that we can measure our results against over the coming year by comparing them with the results of the 2nd annual RSS, which will run from Sept. 11 to Nov. 12, 2023. For the first RSS we received close to 600 responses from both seasonal and permanent residents, despite the short-notice and limited time available to complete it. It is our hope that with more notice and a two-month window to respond, more of you will have your say in the development of our County as a year-round tourism destination that we can all enjoy and benefit from.

If you are interested in staying up to date on the RSS project, you can visit: <https://wadein.haliburtoncounty.ca/resident-sentiment-survey-rss>. Here you will be able to read the final RSS report, which is summary of all the answers that were received from respondents, along with all the advertorials you saw here that spoke to various topics including why resident input matters, what is community-based tourism, and more; as well as the County's 5-Year Destination Development Plan, which provides insights into the creation of the RSS and our focus on building the visitor economy here in the Haliburton Highlands.

If you have any questions, please contact Tracie Bertrand, Manager of Tourism for Haliburton County, at [tbertrand@haliburtoncounty.ca](mailto:tbertrand@haliburtoncounty.ca). Scan for more information.



## letters to the editor

# Rethink fireworks this Victoria Day

To the Editor,

Victoria Day weekend is fast approaching, and over the past decade or more, fireworks have been part of the kickoff celebration of cottage season. But May is also the time that birds are hatching their chicks and other wildlife are bearing their young. Studies have shown that birds are severely impacted by fireworks and have been observed to abandon their nests, sometimes permanently. Some birds fly vast distances to flee the noise and pollution from fireworks and succumb from the depletion of their energy stores. Many companion animals become lost or traumatized during fireworks displays as they flee from the noise. Fireworks are toxic. They contain heavy metals and chemicals that have been shown to disrupt thyroid function in humans. They also bioaccumulate in aquatic life. The debris

from fireworks often ends up in our waterways where it is sometimes eaten by birds and other wildlife. The particulate matter causes air pollution and can aggravate asthma and other health conditions. They produce greenhouse gas emissions and add to climate change at a time when we need all hands on deck to reduce these emissions. While fireworks bylaws have been recently altered to reduce their frequency, these bylaws aren't dealing with the toxicity and harm that they do. We are fortunate in Haliburton County to have habitat for birds and wildlife that other parts of Ontario don't. We need to treat nature with more respect. Please consider some other form of celebration, especially in May, when birds and wildlife are at their most vulnerable.

Susan Hay,  
President, EH!



## Filling up for Food Banks

Members of the Haliburton and District Lions Club raised much needed food and cash donations for the 4c's Food Bank on Saturday, May 13 at both the Haliburton and Wilberforce Foodlands. Their fundraiser, aptly named the Mother's Day Food Bank Fill Up, was very successful, as they raised just over \$1,000.00 in cash donations, plus eight shopping carts full of groceries. Marilyn Frost and Sharon Wilson Carr of the Haliburton Lions Club were representing the club at their shift Saturday afternoon. About ten members of the Lions Club participated in the fundraiser which was very well received from members of the public. /DAVID ZILSTRA Staff



Bethany Houghton alternated between playing the violin and the cello throughout the afternoon tea.

## High tea on Mother's Day

It was a full house at the annual Abbey Gardens' Mother's Day Tea on May 13. Visitors enjoyed a menu of teas and finger foods during the event. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff





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# Adding fun to fitness

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

If you are looking for a way to get to know the area, meet new people, and dive into exercise, then the Haliburton Real Easy Ryders Cycling Club may be for you. "We're a social group," LeAnn Cruz, the president of the organization, told the *Echo*, "we're all about fun and fitness."

The club was started in 1997, when a group of eight friends got together to explore the Haliburton Highlands. Fast forward 26 years, and there are over 130 members from all over the region. "Everyone is so supportive, so welcoming," said Cruz, in reference to the many members. "We aren't a serious racing club with high speed pace lines and time trials. We're a super friendly group of riders who enjoy cycling."

The Easy Ryders ride on Tuesday, Friday, and Sunday mornings, starting in early May, and wrapping up at the end of October. Cruz mentioned that even during the off-season, there are a dedicated group of riders who still ride indoors, and chat with one another via online apps as a way of keeping the momentum of the social group alive.

While the group explores over 53 different routes around the region, each ride is a little bit different, ranging from 15 km to over 50. "We never get bored," Cruz chuckled, "we are always exploring new routes, all the time."

Cruz noted that on Tuesday rides, the group rents a community centre in whichever community they are exploring that day, and enjoys a potluck lunch together. They also stop at restaurants, coffee shops, and parks along the way, so there are opportunities to explore the areas, and chat with other folks on the ride.

The Haliburton Real Easy Ryders Cycling Club is a not-for-profit, and it costs \$40 for the membership. This amount covers the insurance for the organization, as well as the hall rentals for the social component of the group. This not-for-profit status recently earned the group access to the Local Initiatives Program (LIP) grant from HCDC, which they are using to put towards a new



Haliburton Real Easy Ryders Cycling Club gear up for their second ride of the season on May 6, departing from the Minden Curling Club. The group is always welcoming more members to their organization. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

website, and increased social media presence. "We are always looking for new members," said Cruz, "it doesn't matter your riding or fitness ability, we offer different routes for everyone."

Safety is at the forefront for the organization, said Cruz. All riders must wear a helmet for the ride, and if they do not have a helmet, they are unable to join the ride that day. They also all wear high visibility outerwear, don lights and bells to their bikes, and carry a bike safety card with emergency numbers. Cruz said one of the main reasons people join social bike groups is for the added safety. "We have a 'nobody gets left behind' policy," she said, "we always travel in groups, and look out for one another."

On top of the regular tours around the towns, the

group also plans a series of getaways, which all members are welcome to join, including trips to Ganonoque, Ottawa, Gatineau, and Algonquin Park.

As the riders geared up in the parking lot of the Minden Curling Club on May 5 for their second ride of the season, the energy was jovial and welcoming. That morning, a brand new member had joined the group, and they all took turns introducing themselves, and welcoming her to the team.

For a sport that is traditionally designed as a solo activity, the Haliburton Real Easy Ryders Cycling Club has put a new spin on biking; combining fun, fitness, and friendship.

For more information or to join the group, visit [www.haliburtonrealeasyryders.com](http://www.haliburtonrealeasyryders.com).

VALERIE KUINKA  
General &  
Co-Artistic Director

RICHARD MARGISON  
Artistic Director

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### MASTERCLASSES

#### RICHARD MARGISON MASTERCLASSES

Thursday July 27<sup>th</sup>, Friday 28<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>  
7:30-9:00pm | St. George's Anglican Church

#### MISHAABOOZ'S REALM

August 17<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> | 7:30-9:30pm | NLPAP

Experience this powerful & moving work COMMISSIONED by HOS in 2017 and WRITTEN in HALIBURTON COUNTY! Combining opera with First Nation singers and instrumentalists, created for HOS by Cree First Nation composer, Andrew Balfour, Mishaabooz's Realm takes us on a journey through Creation, Colonization, and ultimately Hope for the Future. Post-performance chat with creators/performers.

#### L'ELISIR D'AMORE

(THE ELIXIR OF LOVE) BY GAETANO DONIZETTI

August 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> | 7:30-10:15pm | NLPAP

August 27<sup>th</sup> | 2:00-4:45pm | NLPAP, Haliburton

One of the best loved of all Donizetti's operas, this two-act romantic comedy follows poor villager, Nemorino, who is in love with wealthy, beautiful heiress, Adina. A hilarious sit-com for all ages!

### CONCERTS

#### FROM OPERA TO BROADWAY

August 3<sup>rd</sup> | 7:30-9:30pm

#### CELEBRATIONS!

August 5<sup>th</sup> | 7:30-9:30pm

#### POP GOES THE OPERA

August 9<sup>th</sup> | 7:30-9:30pm

#### HOMEcoming:

HOS ALUMNI CONCERT

August 21<sup>st</sup> | 7:30-9:30pm

All Concerts: St. George's Anglican Church

### PAY-WHAT-YOU-CAN EVENTS:

#### WHY CHOOSE OPERA?

July 31<sup>st</sup> | 7:30-8:45pm

Abbey Gardens Performance Tent

#### MUSIC ON THE WATER

August 12<sup>th</sup> | 6-7pm

Location TBA

#### CASUAL SONG SOIRÉE

August 14<sup>th</sup> | 7:30-8:45pm

St. George's Anglican

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Members of Rotaract pause for a photo while sorting past Highland Yard merchandise to prepare for the upcoming race. Registration opened on May 1, and the group is anticipating that it will be a great year. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

# Highland Yard gears up for 50th in-person run

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

Registration for the annual Places for People fundraiser, the Highland Yard (HY), officially opened on May 1, 2023. For the past few years, the event has been run by a sub-committee of Places for People. This year, the baton has been passed to Haliburton County Rotaract; a service group for young professionals aged 18 and over, who want to find ways to give back to their community. "It feels great to know that Rotaract gets to help with such an important tradition in the community," said Christine Carr, the president of Rotaract. "The work of Places for People is so important to our community so it feels great to get to help ensure their work can continue."

Even with the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Highland Yard was able to pivot their runs to accommodate at-home participation. In a surprise to the committee, Places for People raised more money than ever before during those "virtual" runs. Now, they are ready to bring them back as an in-person event once again.

The events have run for 53 years, but in 2023, it will be the 50th in-person race. Starting in 1971, HY has seen over 5000 runners, and raised over \$20,000 for affordable housing. Carr shared that it feels like an honour to be able to carry on the tradition of the Highland Yard.

This year, 100 per cent of the money

raised at the Highland Yard goes toward supporting the County of Haliburton. It was noted that 90 per cent of the funds will be helping Places for People in lowering mortgage and maintenance costs and purchasing additional properties to continue offer affordable housing and the remaining 10 per cent will support the Rotaract Club for community service community initiatives.

"Rotaract's mandate is 'Service Above Self', and that is what this is," said Carr. "Our goal is to help serve the community wherever the need is greatest, and having access to affordable housing is a huge area of need in our county." She went on to say that working on the Highland Yard seems like a win-win, with the opportunity to promote the work of organizations like Places for People, while also offering a fun and community-oriented local experience.

When asked about whether anything will change with this return to in-person, Carr shared that Rotaract is very excited to jump in with two feet. "We are working hard to preserve the traditions for everyone who knows and loves the race while bringing our own unique energy to the event," she said. "We want it as community-wide as possible, and are happy to work with any community groups or individuals who would like to join us."

The Highland Yard will be held on August 6, 2023, with the starting line at the Minden River Cone. For more information or to register for the run, visit [www.highlandyard.ca](http://www.highlandyard.ca).

## Head Lake Park



### Who are we and what is our mission?

The Head Lake Park Fundraising Committee was formed to help develop a solution that meets our community's needs. The committee is comprised of community members who have come together with a common desire to take meaningful action toward the Master Plan for Head Lake Park and to work together to make it a safe and enjoyable place for everyone in the community.

***Our vision is simple: To curate a destination playground that is inclusive and accessible.***

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***Playgrounds are a vital aspect of healthy development both for children, the community, and the local economy. The impacts are vast, and we must do what we can to ensure that it thrives.***

***Haliburton deserves this space, and we are looking for your support to make sure it happens.***

Donations of \$50 or more are eligible for a charitable tax receipt (not applicable to GoFundMe donations). Donations of \$1000 or more will be acknowledged on a board to be integrated into the playground

## Landfill Cards



**To use Dysart landfills**, property owners must show a valid Landfill Identification User Card. Short-term renters must use a valid One-Time Landfill Pass.



**Garbage must be placed in clear bags.** Up to three (3) bags of garbage in clear bags accepted. There are fees to drop off garbage in dark or opaque bags.



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### Property Owners

Keep using your Dysart 2021-2023 fluorescent green/yellow Landfill Identification User Card until you receive your new card in the mail.

You'll receive your new Dysart 2023-2025 Waste Management User Card in late May/early June. It will be inside your property tax bill. You'll receive this mailing even if you autopay your property taxes.

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[dysartetal.ca/shorttermrenter](https://dysartetal.ca/shorttermrenter)



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Friday, June 2nd	4 pm - 9 pm
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Admission: Adults - \$3 / Children - Free

## 2023 Haliburton Home & Cottage Show



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Show sponsored by the Haliburton Curling Club

For more info:

[www.haliburtonhomeandcottageshow.com](https://www.haliburtonhomeandcottageshow.com)

Visit us on:



# They're baaccck! Black flies, don'tcha know

**D**ON'T SWEAT the small stuff? Well, this army of flying small stuff gets ol' Maybelle not only in sweat, but a lather! A lather of ANGST! Those black flies are just a test, don'tcha know, to see how far I will go to keep from getting bites on my scalp the size of golf balls!

Soooooooo happy the warm sunny weather is back. Soooooo not happy that these teeny, weeny critters come wielding their nasty hello just when I want to sit back on my Adirondack. Why they just LOVE me. They sure love something because even my ear and wrist got bitten.

Now, you set me standing right smack dab beside Beanpole Starkman, and who do they peck on? ME! Don't know why he gets the Get Out of Jail Free card, but he does, every summer. Ol' Maybelle? Let's just say my back looks like a Tic Tac Toe board.

Here's what happened.

Two days ago, I said to myself: Self! Time to wash Ol' Brewster, my truck. So, I pull the hose over to where Brewster is standing and go to town. Well, before I know it, black flies are swarming me like I'm ambrosia, don'tcha know. Lousy etiquette if you ask me. Why, if they HAVE to come around every year, at least they ought to ease

their way into the scene. But no! They cluster, and swarm, biting as if I'm all there is on planet Earth. Well, I wasn't prepared. Those little buggers ambushed me. And I was so into washing Brewster that I didn't think to run into the cottage and put on my protective black fly shirt.

That night the damage was huge. I was the village that they totally pillaged!

Well, I would have no more of THAT! So, the next morning I put on my Canoe FM baseball cap, sprayed it with deet-free black fly and tick spray ... and pulled my net black fly shirt over it and a long sleeve flannel shirt I was wearing. Blue jeans tucked into high rubber boots and I was ready to own my

freedom again. Ready to tend to my garden. Ready to greet the day knowing that ol' Maybelle was free to water all the perennials poking through the earth without getting bitten. To take stock of my garlic garden which the deer, fortunately, don't care to nibble on. And, to accept the fact that those critters will be hanging around for awhile ... but NOT on my scalp, don'tcha know.

Maybelle's Fireside Stories is written by Jerelyn Craden. "Maybelle's Cure for What Ails You," 21 of Maybelle's best short stories is now available at [www.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

### Maybelle's



### Fireside stories



## Sharing travel stories

Peter Schleifenbaum delivered a presentation about his trips to North Korea, Eritrea, and El Salvador during the most recent Yours Outdoors Speaker Series event at the HHOA Fish Hatchery on Wednesday, May 10. He shared photographs and recounted interesting and potentially dangerous aspects of each country. Schleifenbaum has many more travels planned for the upcoming year. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Jim Alder\*  
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- 172 Ft Frontage, Water On Backside, Level Priv
- Shallow Entry, Deep, View, 2 BD 2 Bath
- Stone FP, All Glass Lake Side, Guest Hse /Bath
- 3 Side Deck, Rock Fire Pit By Water, Garage



Mark Denny's  
457-0473

### Beautiful Family Home \$799,900

- Approx 2807 Sq Ft, 233 Ft Rd Frtg, 1.3 Acres
- Great Room, 3 Bdm, 3 Bath, Main Flr Laundry
- Rec Room with Wet Bar, Wrap-Around Deck
- Attached 3 Car Garage, Level Lot, Privacy



Tom Ecclestone\*  
286-2138 x 226

### Available Immediately!

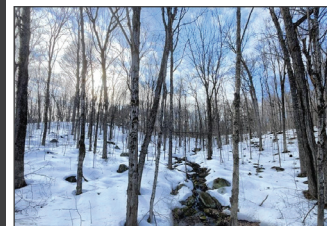
- For Lease 1000 square feet HP Superstore Plaza
- Great exposure on Highway 35 and CR 21
- Perfect for retail, professional office space etc.



Lindsay Elder\*\*  
457-5878

### Listings Wanted!

- If you're thinking of selling...CALL ME!
- Strike while the market is hot!



Melanie Hevesi\*\*  
854-1000

### Johnson Bay Rd

- 109 acres of unspoiled Haliburton landscape
- Overlooks Percy Lake, 4100ft of Municipal Road Frtg
- Approximately 30 minutes to Haliburton



Andrew Hodgson\*\*  
286-2138 x 229

### Black Lake \$869,000

- 1.8-acre parcel with 228 feet of frontage
- 2-bedroom cottage with ideal footprint
- 2 car garage with year-round apartment
- Stunning sunsets with due west exposure



Susanne James\* & Andy Mosher\*\*  
457-2128 x 133

### Wenona Lake \$899,900

- Chalet-Style Ctg, 3 Beds / 1 Bath, 850 SqFt
- 101ft of Rock & Sand Shoreline, New Septic 2021
- Open-Concept, Main Flr Laundry, Screen Porch
- Breathtaking Lake View, 20 mins to Haliburton



Ashley McKeigue  
705-854-1833

### Oblong Lake \$579,000

- 0.9-acre parcel with north-western exposure
- Over 700 feet of clean, sand & rock frontage
- Driveway installed & building site partially clear
- 2-lake chain with premium Haliburton Lake



Brandon Nimigon\*\*  
457-2128 x 127

### County Rd 21 \$125,000

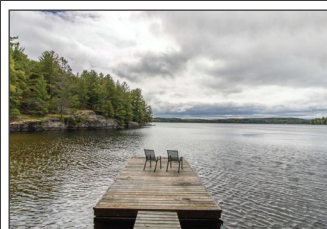
- 2.34 Acre Lot Close To Town!
- 529ft of Frtg, Mins from Schools & Amenities
- Public Beaches and Boat Launch Nearby
- Build a Country Home w/ Walkout Basement



Karen Nimigon\*\*  
457-6505

### Basshaunt Lk Rd \$160,000

- Very Private 2+ Acre Lot w/ Mature Trees
- Just Minutes To Sir Sam's Ski Hill
- Close to Eagle Lake Public Beach
- Looking For a Lifestyle Change? This s it!



Kelly Kay\*  
705-457-6841  
Kirsten Rae\*  
705-854-1454

### Soyers Lake \$1,700,000

- 3 Beds/2 Baths, 1800+ Sq Ft, 149' of Frtg
- Sunny Southern Views, Spacious Rec Room
- Recently Upgraded Kitchen, Woodstove
- 10 Mins to Haliburton & Minden



Darlene Reil\*  
447-2055

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- This is the time to think about listing
- Listings Needed!
- Call today for more information



Christine Sharp\*  
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### Private, Building Lot \$159,000

- 2 Acre Forested Lot
- Beautiful Mixture of Pine & Maple Trees
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Greg Stamp\*  
457-2128 x 128

### Large Acreage on Cockle Lake!

- 131 Acres, 3000+ ft of Water Frontage
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Melanie Vigrass\*  
286-2138 x 232

### Bethel Road \$549,000

- Incredible 194-acre parcel just mins from Minden
- Long gated driveway to private, cleared site
- Large frontage on picturesque Walker's Pond
- Trails throughout to explore, teaming with wildlife



Tom Wilkinson\*  
286-2138 x 225

### Salerno Lake \$325,000

- 172' waterfront Lot
- 1.17 acres
- Sunset exposure
- Ideal for walkout basement

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Looking snappy

The first Adult Level 1 Turtle Guardian Training of the year was held at the HHOA Fish Hatchery on Saturday, May 13. Eleven participants spent a few hours of the day learning how to identify turtles, about turtle biology, how to help turtles, and how to properly handle them. /TIM YANO Special to the Echo



Educational lead Grace Wiley describes a Northern map turtle to participants.



Leora Berman, Turtle Guardians founder, shows the biology of a turtle.



A participant carefully lifts a snapping turtle from the ground.

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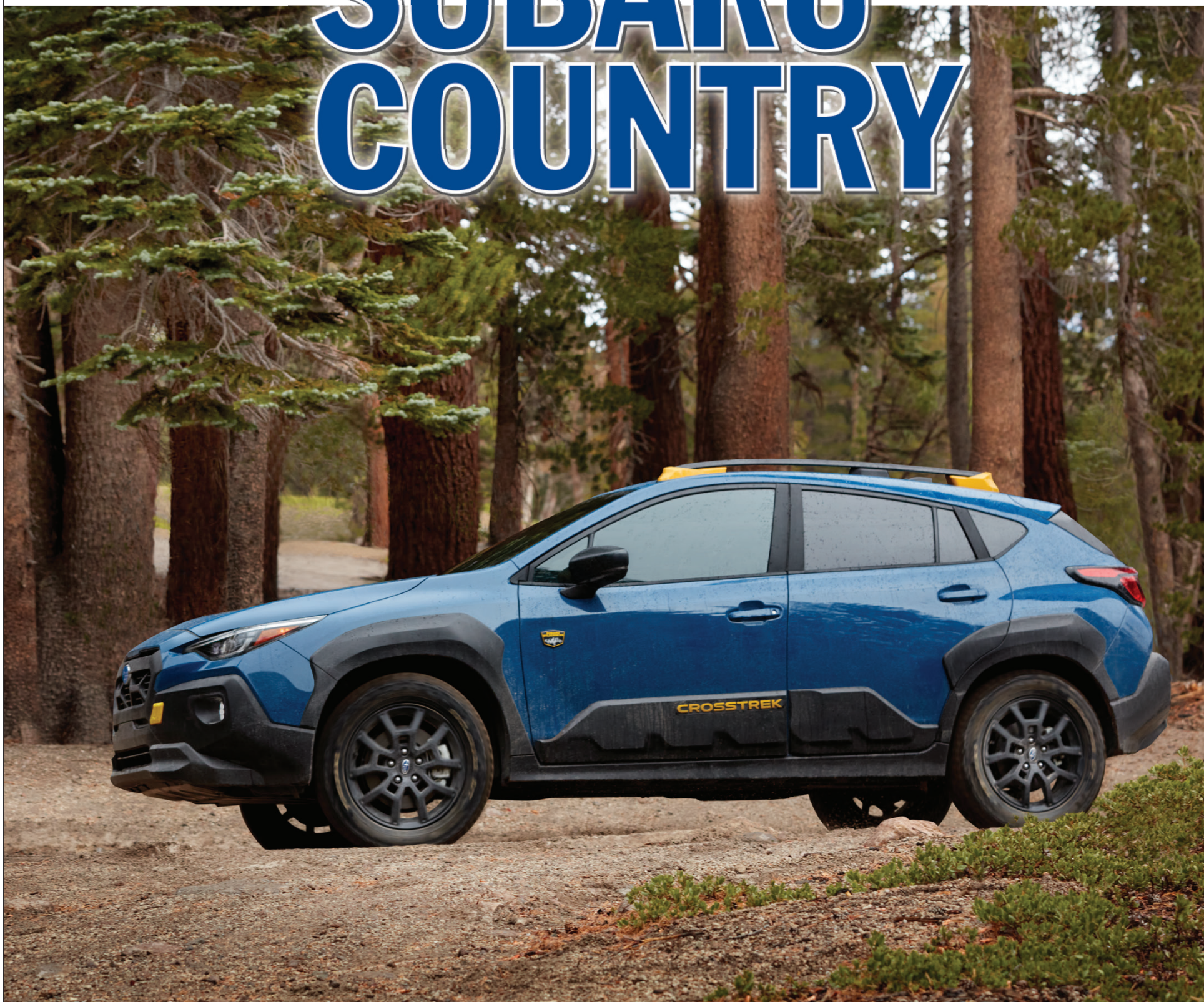
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Crossword brought to you by

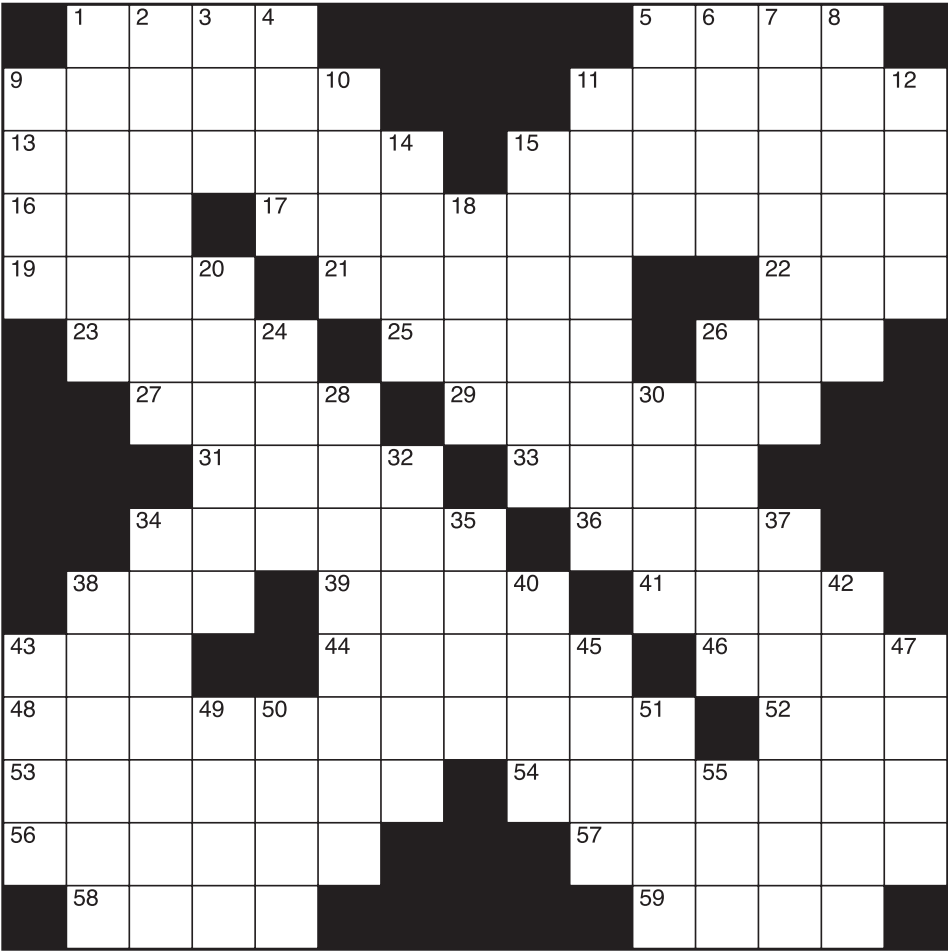
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*"Out Standing In Our Field"*







- CLUES ACROSS

  - 1. Understand intuitively
  - 5. Two of something
  - 9. Not involving computer tech
  - 11. Acclaimed
  - 13. Undermine
  - 15. The condition of being concealed or hidden
  - 16. Irritate
  - 17. The process of developing a theory
  - 19. Ceramic jar
  - 21. Not fresh
  - 22. Dad's fashion accessory
  - 23. Popular review site
  - 25. New Mexico county
  - 26. Ö\_\_ death do us part
  - 27. Fees
  - 29. Takes with force
  - 31. One-time Yankees rookie sensation
  - 33. Gordon and Snider are two
  - 34. Body parts
  - 36. Arranges
  - 38. Fiddler crabs
  - 39. Mimics
  - 41. Witnesses
  - 43. They \_\_
  - 44. Lasso
  - 46. Runs down
  - 48. In response to
  - 52. Bird-like dinosaur
  - 53. Metamorphic stages
  - 54. Conditions of incapacity
  - 56. Sodas are sold in these units
  - 57. Break away from
  - 58. Ethereal
  - 59. Boggy
- CLUES DOWN

  - 1. Mangled
  - 2. Ruffled some feathers
  - 3. Not young
  - 4. Lakers legend
  - 5. Nocturnal S. American rodent
  - 6. Direction (Scottish)
  - 7. Intestinal inflammation
  - 8. Spring back in fear
  - 9. Owl genus
  - 10. Girls
  - 11. Unbeliefs
  - 12. Force unit
  - 14. Expired trade agreement
  - 15. Went alone
  - 18. Animal noises
  - 20. Woman who graduated from a specific school
  - 24. The very top
  - 26. Organs in males
  - 28. Earnings
  - 30. Z Z Z
  - 32. Reddish browns
  - 34. A salt or ester of acetic acid
  - 35. A place to get off your feet
  - 37. More disreputable
  - 38. Kidney condition
  - 40. Cease moving
  - 42. Quick
  - 43. Extra seed covering
  - 45. "Survivor: Panama" winner
  - 47. Six
  - 49. One who inspects lamps
  - 50. Small parrot
  - 51. Primordial matter of the universe
  - 55. \_\_ fi (slang)

Answers on page 19

# A 90th birthday party for Kathleen Owens

community news  
**west guilford**  
*Eleanor Cooper*  
754-2278

The thirteenth of May brought many blessings to celebrate Kathleen's 90th birthday party, the first of which was the weather, clear and sunny.

Then there were the people who presented the shining conditions of the West Guilford Community Centre for the guests to enjoy.

Follow this with the presence of my children and spouses who arranged tables and chairs and decorated the hall, and you have the makings of a happy birthday party.

Members of the former Maple Lake United Church were first to arrive followed by a goodly representation of St George's Anglican Church and neighbours from the Guilford community – about 45 in all.

Alan piped a few favourite pipe tunes for his beloved Auntie Kay. Cheryl and Anne Cohoon sang a triple birthday duet and many of us sang the traditional birthday greeting, heartfelt by one and all.

At home, George and Shirleen, Alan and Sophy provided a super supper for all the family gathered. A small amount of the beautifully decorated cake made by Shelley van Nood was left.

Mandolin, fiddle and guitar played to



Friends and family gathered at the West Guilford Community Centre on Saturday, May 13 to celebrate Kathleen Owens' 90th birthday. From left June Campbell, Eleanor Cooper, Mavis Swiston, and Kathleen Owens. /DAVID ZILSTRA Staff

Kathleen's piano music and of course we all sang.

Downstairs in the Centre a younger group joined to wish Audrey Appleton a happy fifth birthday at what is known as the Drop Zone.

Again, thanks to the committee of the Centre for providing these areas for celebrations.

## Be part of a community yard sale

Do you need to get rid of gently used toys? Or do you have dishes or furniture that need a new home? Maybe a closet full of clothing that someone else could enjoy?

Instead of hosting a yard or garage sale on your own property, register for the Municipality of Dysart et al's second annual New To You Community Yard Sale!

The New To You Community Yard Sale will take place on Saturday, July 8, 2023 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parking lot of the A.J. LaRue Arena, 728 Mountain Street, Haliburton.

There are 35 spaces available for households to sell gently used household items from their vehicles. Preference will be given to households from Dysart. Transient traders are not permitted.

There is a registration fee of \$30 plus HST.

As a participant, you'll provide your own tables, chairs, and cash float. If you chose to bring your own tent, you must provide weights to secure it, as nothing is allowed to penetrate the asphalt. You'll set your own prices, and are responsible for taking all materials away at the end of the event. Set up will begin at 6 a.m., with shopping starting at 8 a.m.

You can register and pay online at [www.dysartet.ca/newtoyou](http://www.dysartet.ca/newtoyou).

There are only 35 spaces available, so register soon so you don't miss out on this exciting new opportunity!

Submitted by the  
Municipality of Dysart et al

## Off Grid and Outdoors Raffle

United Way for the City of Kawartha Lakes is pleased to announce the Haliburton Off-Grid and Outdoors Raffle: tickets are 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$20. Tickets are available at the Haliburton Home and Cottage Show, Outdoors Plus, Emmerson Lumber & Haliburton Solar and Wind. Prizes include:

- Emmerson Lumber, Castle Building Centres - SunCast Bunkie/Shed
- Haliburton Solar and Wind - Bunkie solar and battery power system
- Haliburton Home Hardware – Huntington Propane BBQ with 2 burners
- Glecoff's Family Store - BBQ tool set and wooden brush
- Chilly Moose - 12L Harbour Bucket Cooler

- Wall It Wall Art - Metal Wall Art
- Outdoors Plus - Archery Set: two Rajim long bows, two arm guards, 12 arrows and large target
- Hook Line and Sinker - Dinner for 4

United Way CKL has invested over \$300,000 into Haliburton County, supporting programming at EarlyON, Point in Time, Community Living and many more. Proceeds of the raffle support United Way initiatives in Haliburton County.

For more information contact Shantal Ingram, co-executive director, United Way for the City of Kawartha Lakes at 705-878-5081.

Submitted



HHSS' Interact club had copies of their new Colouring Books for sale, a joint project between Interact, Rotaract Haliburton Highlands, and Haliburton Rotary with proceeds going towards supplies for a partner school in India.

## Open House at HHSS

Chloe Morissette from Skyline Dance Studio performs during Haliburton Highlands Secondary School's Open House on Wednesday, May 10. The event featured booths from community organizations, a display of student art, and performances in the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. /Submitted by HHSS



Skyline Dance Studio dancers perform a hip hop number.



The school's Hospitality and Tourism class prepared and served food for guests during the open house.



### Notice of Fee By-Law Amendments

Dysart et al Council, at their June 13, 2023 meeting, will be considering changes to By-Law 2021-92, being a by-law to impose fees and charges for the Evergreen Cemetery. Effective July 1, 2023, fee increases are proposed to account for rising licensing fees and operating costs.

Further information on these fee changes will be available on <https://www.dysartetal.ca/>.

Mallory Bishop, Municipal Clerk

## CROSSWORD ANSWERS

	Y	R	I	M					Y	R	E	A	
E	D	E	C	E	S			S	R	E	I	L	
S	E	I	S	T	A	P		S	E	O	G	A	M
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	R	A	I	P						K	O	G	R



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Other highlights include the metal roof (1995), forced air oil furnace, most windows updated (2017), water treatment equipment for the well. 200 AMP service (no knob & tube), & more. Dreaming of your private country getaway? This is it. It's time to love where you live.



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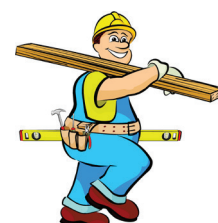
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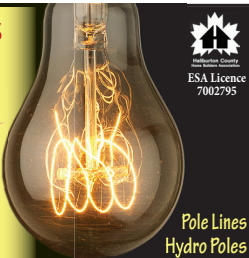
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Expected Start date: Spring 2023

Previous experience in maintenance, landscaping, or related field an asset. Candidates will be trained on-site and must enjoy working outside in a team-oriented, collaborative environment. Candidates can expect to work approx 35-40 hours per week. Must be willing to complete all government related certifications, including WHIMS.

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The Camp Maintenance Manager is responsible for overseeing and directing the maintenance team at our residential summer camp, under the guidance and supervision of the Facilities Director. This person will ensure the camp's facilities, grounds, and equipment are kept in good condition and safe for campers and staff to use. The Manager works closely with the Facilities Director and other members of the team to plan and execute maintenance projects and manage the daily operations of the maintenance team. For more information about our camp, visit [www.campnbb.com](http://www.campnbb.com)

#### Key responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Hire, train and supervise the maintenance staff to ensure that all work is completed to a high standard and in a timely manner.
- Direct the maintenance and repair of camp's facilities, equipment and electrical and mechanical systems
- Coordinate and participate in all cleaning, sweeping, mopping and sanitizing all camp buildings, camp garbage collection and disposal, building/carpentry, repairing, landscaping, and painting.
- Develop and implement schedules and procedures for safety inspections and preventive maintenance programs.
- Conduct routine inspections of camp facilities, equipment, and grounds to identify areas in need of repair or maintenance.
- Coordinate and oversee the repair or replacement of damaged equipment and facilities as necessary.
- Manage the inventory of maintenance supplies and materials, and order new supplies as needed.

Expected Start date: Spring 2023

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Haliburton Echo

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Born and raised in Minden, Ontario, June passed away peacefully at the age of 92 on May 4th, 2023, having recently moved from her Cambridge residence at Riverbend Place into hospice care at Lisaard House. June's family would like to offer their sincere appreciation and gratitude for the excellent care she received at both facilities.

Predeceased by her loving husband of 59 years, Edward Daley "Ted" Johnston, her father, Frederick Beatty Wright, her mother, Viola May Wright (nee Kent), and her sister, Eileen Zanatian (Charles), June leaves behind three children — Ray Edward (Tina), Ruth Thelma (Julie), and Randy James (Emilia) as well as grandchildren Erin Marie and Shane Frederick.

June and Ted had lived together in the same Scarborough home since the 1950s and watched their family grow with the neighbourhood. From the beginning, they had always considered themselves incredibly fortunate to have been surrounded by a multitude of wonderful, caring, and considerate neighbours from all walks of life and all corners of the globe. With Ted's passing in 2014, it was thanks in large part to the love and support of neighbours like Hussein, Xena, Steve, Lily, Niall, Kathy, Frank, John, Scott and others that June was able to maintain her independence and remain in her home much longer than would otherwise have been possible.

In lieu of flowers, the family have asked that those wishing to remember June express their condolences by making an active effort to share their kindness and compassion with their own neighbours, whomever they may be.

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*In Loving  
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**Haliburton tunes in to bass classic** ... See page 8

**R. D. LAWRENCE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF TREES**  
... see page 15

**WORK-FOR-A-DAY**

Grade 8 students experience the workplace... see page 10

TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1994

# THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO

"The Voice of the Highlands Since 1882"

Vol. 112, No 15 • 26 pages • 70 Cents + GST = 75 Cents

## Cutting county down to size

**■ Removing deputies from county council would save \$10,000**

by MARTHA PERKINS  
Editor

When county council meets later this month, there will be 17 people sitting around the council table - 10 reeves and seven deputy-reeves.

One item on the agenda is whether they should get rid of the deputy-reeves' positions altogether. The remaining 10 reeves would sit on all committees, which would meet once a month and county taxpayers would save \$10,000 a year.

But right now, the only thing people agree on is that it will be a long and vociferous debate.

"I don't agree with it at all," says Glamorgan Deputy-reeve Glen Madill. "The deputy is a

democratic position and you'd be losing a voice that people want you to have."

Snowdon Reeve George Simmons says that democracy isn't being well-served if the 17 people on council can never agree on anything. On many issues, a municipality's reeve and deputy negate each other's vote.

And 17 voices sometimes means 17 different opinions and it's hard to make decisions - especially decisions that aren't debated all over again at the next council.

Dysart's reeve Curry Bishop doesn't like the thought of watering down Dysart's voice on council. Dysart pays 35 per cent of the county levy and yet under the new system, Minden, Lutterworth, Sherborne et al and Stanhope would have an equal number of votes.

"When you're paying 35 per cent of the bill and you have a couple of municipalities representing 8 per cent of the tax base overruling us, it's ridiculous," Bishop says.

As it stands now, all 10 municipalities send their reeves to county council. Municipalities with more than 2,500 ratepayers are allowed to send their deputies as well. That means that Snowdon, Bicroft and Monmouth do not have deputies on county council. As well, on money issues, voting is "weighted" so that larger municipalities have more votes. Dysart gets four votes and Minden gets three; all the rest get one vote per council member.

Under the Municipal Act, the voting with a reeve-only council would be like this: municipalities with 1,000 to 2,000 ratepayers would get one additional vote; if they have 2,001 to 3,000 ratepayers, they would get two additional votes; municipalities with more than 3,001 ratepayers would get the maximum three extra votes.

With the present system, Dysart gets four votes out of a total of 20; if deputies are eliminated, it would get four votes out of a total of 32.

"If having deputies on council costs \$10,000, then Dysart pays \$3,500 and it's to our benefit to have two people there," says Bishop, who as deputy filled the shoes of his former reeve, Chris Hodgson, while Hodgson was campaigning to be the riding's MPP. "They shouldn't be saving the money at the expense of the largest municipality because we're paying for most of it anyway."

"I think it's ironic they've picked this particular council and this particular time," says Stanhope Deputy-reeve Eleanor Harrison. A deputy (Lutterworth's Jim McMahon) is warden and deputies are chair-

Please turn to page 2



**FIRST IN:** The Echo barely had a chance to announce the winner of its Ice Off The Lake Contest before one hardy soul dipped his toe - and more - in the chilly water. The ice was officially off Head Lake on Sunday. On Wednesday HHSS student Ryan Ellis, of Haliburton was the first to break the ice. There wasn't a prize for his effort, but maybe next year? By the way, our thanks to Diane Jackson, who spotted the rare species and telephoned the Echo.

## School grants slashed - tax hike inevitable

by LINDA SHUTT  
Staff Reporter

After struggling for weeks to limit any increase in this year's school budget, trustees were smacked last Tuesday with the news that the province is cutting education grants to Haliburton County by \$650,000.

The announcement came only a week after the government had strong-armed the board into expanding its programs to include junior kindergarten.

Taxpayers in the county face a property tax hike to make up the revenue shortfall, on top of the board's expenditure increase of 3.9 per cent. The total tax increase will vary across the county but, as an example, it will

add an estimated \$65 to the average Dysart municipal tax bill. Glamorgan homeowners will pay, on average, another \$45. That figure doesn't include any county or municipal tax increases for this year.

Trustees were frustrated and angry at the announcement, made at a special meeting of the management committee last Tuesday night. It means the estimated 3.9 per cent increase, recommended by the management committee three weeks ago, jumps to an eight per cent increase without any benefit to the students.

"We're trying to help the kids, but the government certainly isn't helping us," said committee chairman Wally Bunn. He was angry that, after all the commit-

tee's efforts to limit the damage to school programs while holding the line for taxpayers, the increase was going to be doubled. "We're at the mercy of the province. I felt comfortable with the 3.9 per cent. I'm not happy with eight per cent," said Bunn.

But the committee stuck with its recommendation to the board, which voted later in the evening to accept the budget with a 3.9 per cent increase in expenditures and a four per cent decrease in revenues.

In the full board debate, trustees pointed out that the public had already said the school system couldn't bear any more program cuts.

In letters and in appearances

Please turn to page 12



**PLAYING AROUND WITH FAMILY VALUES:** Deborah Neve as Evalita Turnover and Ray Oliphant as her boyfriend, Harmony Rhodes, are the black sheep of a family that's back together to await the settling up of her father's estate in the Highlands Little Theatre production of *Daddy's Dyni, Who's Got the Will?*. For more, see page 16.

## Dysart considers service cuts or fee increases

by MARTHA PERKINS  
Editor

Dysart et al is trying to hold the line on its budget, but the province isn't making it any easier.

Council already cut its roads budget by 15 per cent in expectation of a decrease in provincial funding. But it now looks as if the province might make a further 5 per cent cut in roads funding. Actual funding levels should be announced after this week's provincial budget is released.

"We're still in limbo," says Reeve Curry Bishop following Thursday night's public budget meeting.

With less money coming into the municipality, council simply cannot maintain the present levels of service.

"People have to accept fewer services or we'll have to go to user pay for some of our services," Bishop says. He is adamantly opposed to passing on the costs to taxpayers. "We've got to stop increasing taxes."

But other councillors aren't so sure that taxpayers are willing to do without services. Right now the budget increase stands at a 1.34 per cent increase over last year even though council cut its spending from \$3.4-million to \$3.2-million. (Council wasn't faced with some of last year's expenditures, such as bunker suits for volunteer firefighters.) And while Bishop hopes to get it down to zero, other councillors

are concerned about making any more cuts. They are hoping to be able to keep staff at the current level.

It isn't just the decrease in roads funding which is giving the municipality headaches. With less development, there's less income from building permits and little increase in assessment. As well, the level of tax arrears is high so council will have to borrow money instead of earning interest on money it has in the bank.

On the other hand, council is not taking on any major project. There is no money set aside for the expansion of the sewage treatment plant, which will be completed in the spring of 1995. The province is paying roughly 80 per cent of the cost and Bishop says the rest will have to come from user fees.

"The fees will have to go up," he says, although he doesn't know how much the increase will be.

The budget will likely be voted on Monday's council meeting.

## Hodgson appointed MNR critic

by LINDA SHUTT  
Staff Reporter

Local MPP Chris Hodgson has been named as the Progressive Conservative party's critic for the Ministry of Natural Resources.

The appointment, announced last Thursday, will give Hodgson the responsibility for monitoring the provincial government's policies on resource issues.

One of Hodgson's first tasks will be to follow up on a meeting yesterday between the Haliburton Forest Owners' Association and the ministry to discuss the cancellation of the forest tax rebate program.

"I've talked to (Minister of Natural Resources Howard) Manion a couple of times," said Hodgson. "The cancellation has a big impact on this area...What

concerns me is that the government isn't coordinating its programs."

The MPP was in Haliburton last weekend, with a hectic schedule of events. He said he's been extremely busy since the election. He said when he took office last month, after the riding had been without an MPP for six months, Hodgson found more than 200 cases waiting for his attention.

His appointment as a party critic within weeks of his election to Queen's Park is considered to be an important recognition of the new MPP by his party.

In announcing the appointment, party leader Mike Harris said Hodgson had earned the post.

"During his campaign Chris demonstrated a tremendous grasp of resource issues so critical to

Please turn to page 2

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**KENNISIS LAKE**  
**\$2,399,999**



**5 X BED**


**46 ACRES**

**108 FT. FRONTAGE**

**3437 SQ.FT**

**MLS# 40385850**

**SOYERS LAKE**  
**\$1,995,000**



**3 X BED**

**0.31 ACRES**

**2743 SQ.FT**

**WESTERN EXPOSURE SAND SHORELINE**

**MLS# 40383539**

**MAPLE LAKE**  
**\$1,599,000**



**3 X BED**

**2.14 ACRES**

**YEAR ROUND RD. SOUTHERN EXPOSURE**

**196 FT. FRONTAGE**

**MLS# 40385562**

**KENNISIS LAKE**  
**\$1,250,000**



**4 X BED**

**WESTERN EXPOSURE**

**MUNICIPAL RD.**

**2 X BATH**

**97 FT. FRONTAGE**

**MLS# 40386912**

**MOUNTAIN LAKE**  
**\$1,210,000**



**4 X BED**

**330 FEET OF FRONTAGE**

**2919 SQ.FT**

**3 X BATH**

**BUNKIE**

**MLS# 40386211**

**STORMY LAKE**  
**\$699,000**



**3 X BED**

**868 SQ.FT**

**0.845 ACRES**

**1 X BATH**

**230 FT. FRONTAGE**

**MLS# 40414132**

**GELERT ROAD**  
**\$425,000**



**3 X BED**

**2309 SQ.FT**


**2.01 ACRES**

**2 X BATH**

**WORKSHOP**

**MLS# 40395844**

**LAKE AVENUE**  
**\$325,000**



**1X BED**


**1X DEN**

**GREAT LOCATION**

**1 X BATH**

**MLS# 40416718**

**KAWAGAMA LAKE**  
**\$279,000**



**SOUTH EXPOSURE**


**WATER ACCESS ONLY**

**102 FT. FRONTAGE**

**0.59 ACRES**

**MLS# 40414040**

**TORY HILL**  
**\$168,000**



**3.65 ACRES**

**311 FT. FRONTAGE**

**MUNICIPAL RD.**

**MLS# 40408296**

**LAKEVIEW STREET**  
**\$159,900**



**PRIME LOCATION**

**1.47 ACRES**

**UNDERGROUND HYDRO**

**MUNICIPAL YEAR-ROUND RD.**

**MLS# 40364799**

**SOUTH ROAD**  
**\$99,000**



**GREAT LOCATION SKI HILL NEARBY**

**2.48 ACRES**

**OFF-GRID**

**MLS# 40417372**

**GRASS LAKE**  
**\$1,595,000**



**3 X BED**

**0.45 ACRES**

**2352.34 SQ.FT**

**3 X BATH**

**120 FT. FRONTAGE**

**MLS# 40400244**

**ROSS LAKE**  
**\$575,000**



**3 X BED**

**1 X BATH**

**SOUTHWEST EXPOSURE**

**200 FT. FRONTAGE**

**MLS# 40408339**

**KASHAGAWIGAMOG LAKE**  
**\$2,999,999**



**3 X BED**

**5+ ACRES**

**620 FT. FRONTAGE**

**2 X BATH**

**PRIME LOCATION**

**MLS# 40386216**

**HUMMINGBIRD RD**  
**\$175,000**



**51 ACRES**

**PRIVATE**

**MLS# 40408248**

**BURNT RIVER**  
**\$238,000**



**0.531 ACRES**

**164 FT. FRONTAGE RIVERFRONT**

**MUNICIPAL RD.**

**HYDRO**

**MLS# 40386225**

**PARK STREET**  
**\$499,000**




**3 X BED**

**DEEDED ACCESS TO WATER**

**WORKSHOP**

**2 X BATH**

**MLS# 40395553**



**7 PARK ST.  
HALIBURTON**  
**May 20th, 9am - 3pm  
May 21st, 9am - 3pm**